

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13  
28 and 29 May 2012

---

**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY

**TOPIC:** ASQA registrations

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, Monday 28 May 2012, Page 53)

**QUESTION No.:** BI-25

**Senator NASH:** How many individual courses would you have registered since ASQA came into being?

**Mr Robinson:** We register courses individually when they do not fit into a training package framework.

**Senator NASH:** How long does that take?

**Mr Robinson:** We might have to take on notice how long that takes. We have 1,811 accredited courses that are listed on the national register—that is nationally—and right now ASQA is responsible for 928 of those. There are still a number of those being registered by Queensland and there are also some being registered by Victoria and WA. We have developed agreements. Part of the work that we are doing at the moment is developing ongoing agreements with those two regulators. It is to make sure that we try to eliminate the regulator shopping issue, that if they get knocked back by one of us they do not go the other. All the remaining regulators have the authority to regulate courses nationally as well as within their jurisdiction, so the purpose here is to make sure that we do not end up with courses being registered that could have been offered in a training package. We want people to get the course that the industry recognises as the one needed for the workforce, so we want to keep other courses to a minimum, if you like, where the training package does not offer coverage. In the past there has been a lot of regulator shopping and certain people who wanted to set up a course really tried to set these courses up just so they could market them with their own brand name, even though they were available under training packages. We are trying to eliminate that practice.

**ANSWER**

Since ASQA began on 1 July 2011, 133 individual courses have been accredited and added to the national register. Please refer to Question BI-26 for information regarding timelines.